Mr. Tony Summers
Stillpoint, Dromore
Aglish, Cappoquin
CO Waterford
IRELAND

4/2/89

Dear Tony,

Six days before my 76th birthday, when as you know I've been limited in what I can do and lack the time as well as the energy to do much of what I'd like to yet do, I have again to waste time because of ungrateful, selfish, self-important you. Or just forget the cost to me of the transcribing machine I loaned you when he first came here to work on your Hoover book. And hope that when I replace it I can get a unit with the counter identical with the one on the transcribing part of the pair.

Have you no shame? No self-respect at all? No personal integrity at all?

The original idea in your borrowing the unit we were not using was to see whether it would be effecient for you. How many years does that take? When I heard you were about to leave I asked for its return and was assured, by you and later by Cathy Castle, that it would be returned before you left. I mentioned this several times to Jim Lesar, who was in touch with you, and to the researcher then working for you. Without a single word from you.

It happens that I had a use for the transcriber unit because I was asked to annotate several books before Lil would not have the time because of the advent of tax season. As you know, I'm not able to sit at a desk and read and type notes and, thanks to you I could not dictate them and hope to have them transcribed for at least many months. So, I had to sit and hold the books with my left hand while writing on the pages with the other. Any usefulness in what I've done is thus limited to the professor to whom I sent the annotated books.

In a week or so I'll have the fifth book to annotate and with tax season over Lil will not be able to transcribe what I dictate until I carry the dictating machine into her office - and then won't be able to use it again until she finishes. Or, of course, I can put half of my monthly Social Security check on another unit, hope they are compatible, and label it "Tribute to Tony Summers' Honor."

Really, I'm thoroughly ashamed of you and I can no longer depend on your keeping your word. I spent all the time I did trying to help you, you had free access to everything I have, and in return you are a petty thief.

Your behavior makes me concerned about your failure to respond to my last letter relating to your knowledge of my work on the King material and your commitment not to make any use of it absent your performance on your part, which was to get me a publisher who would provide the assistance I need to complete that book. I therefore repeat what you did not respond to: what you said you would do is not satisfactory so I tell you again, you are not to include any of that in your manuscript, subject to my approval and there will be no such approval under any circumstances. You made notes and you made tapes and under the existing conditions I hope you will regard the honorable course to be your return of them to me and your written word that you will make no direct or indirect use whatsoever of what you learned subject to your performance under the agreement you did not perform on.

By a copy of this letter I am informing Jim Lesar.

Harold Weisberg

Harold